

A NEW BRACHYMETRA FROM PERU WITH A LIST OF KNOWN SPECIES (Hemiptera, Gerridae)

By H. M. HARRIS and C. J. DRAKE

The following described water strider brings the known number of species of *Brachymetra* to six, *B. vittata* Shaw being referable to the genus *Eobates* Drake & Harris.¹ The types of the new species are in the collection of the authors.

***Brachymetra mera*, new species**

Brachypterous form: Elongate-ovate, brown, pale beneath, opaque, the middle and hind acetabula usually with silvery spot. Antennae dark fuscous, segments I and II slightly enlarged distally, the former pale beneath, its length subequal to width of head across eyes (92); proportions—I, 90; II, 45; III, 68; IV, 50. Eyes large, as viewed from above with about one-third of their total length projecting back behind base of head. Anterior legs moderately stout, dark fuscous, the femora within, and the coxae and trochanters yellowish, the femur as long as pronotum (170), the second tarsal segment nearly one-half longer than first. Middle and hind legs very long, slender, dark fuscous, paler beneath, the length of middle femora subequal to that of body, the posterior ones a little longer. Rostrum extending a little behind prosternum, yellowish brown, the last segment blackish. Venter plump, the last segment nearly twice as long as preceding. Head without markings, the vertex about one-fourth wider than the diameter of an eye. Pronotum long, the anterior lobe distinctly impressed on disc, the posterior lobe about three times as long as front lobe, broadly rounded behind (a little more sharply so in female). First abdominal segment above with hind margin deeply, roundly emarginate. Connexiva wide, concolorous. Male with first genital segment above slightly emarginate at apex. Clasper moderately long and narrow, somewhat bowed within.

Winged form. Hind triangular part of pronotum more obtusely narrowed and appearing shorter than in *B. kleopatra* Kirkaldy, its median length subequal to width across humeri, the apex obtuse, reaching posterior to hind margin of meso-acetabula. Hemelytra dark brown, longer than abdomen, the veins yellowish, the outer marginal nervure very broad, finely hairy.

Length, 8.85 mm; width, 3.25 mm. Winged form nearly 10 mm. long.

Holotype (male), *allotype* (female) and 1 *paratype* (all apterous), Maria, Peru, Sept. 16, 1944, taken by E. J. Hambleton; 4 winged paratypes, bearing same labels as type.

Probably most nearly like *B. kleopatra* Kirkaldy but readily recognized by its larger size, darker color, obtuse apex of hind lobe of pronotum, and differently shaped clasper. This is the largest member of the genus.

¹ *Eobates vittata* (Shaw) 1934 (= *E. morrisoni* D & H, 1934).

LIST OF SPECIES

Genus *Brachymetra* Mayr, 1865

1. *albinerva* (Amyot & Serville), 1843.....Panama; Brazil; Colombia; Venezuela; Peru; Central America; British West Indies
var. *incisa* Shaw, 1934.....Bolivia; Brazil
2. *anduzei* Drake & Harris, 1942.....Venezuela
3. *kleopatra* Kirkaldy, 1899.....Peru; Trinidad, B.W.I.
4. *lata* Shaw, 1934.....Brazil
5. *mera* Harris and Drake, n. sp.....Peru
6. *unca* Shaw, 1934.....Trinidad, B.W.I.

IDENTITY OF TETYRA LATERALIS FABRICIUS (Heteroptera, Pentatomidae)

By W. L. McATEE and J. R. MALLOCH

Reece I. Sailer's complimentary remarks (Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash., 47(5), May 1945, p. 129) upon our Revision of the Thyreocorinae are appreciated but his optimism as to the identifiability of certain earlier described species is not shared.

Even if we should accept all of Sailer's suggestions as to interpretation of the original description, we still think that *Tetyra lateralis* Fabricius is not definitely identifiable. A point which Sailer apparently did not consider is that there probably is more than one species of approximately the same size and coloration to be reckoned with. As the Fabrician type is not extant and was never precisely described or figured, we do not see how choice can be made between *Allocoris g. gillettei* Van Duzee (N. Y. and N. Dak., south to Fla. and Tex.), *A. harti* Malloch (N. Y. to Miss.), and possibly *A. agrella* McAtee (Md., Va.), species that may occur in the type locality, "Carolina." As the specimen was from the Bosc collection, this probably should be interpreted as Charleston, S. C., where Bosc spent some time.

With only one species as a possibility, its identification with *lateralis* might be acceptable, but with two and possibly more of very similar stature and coloration to choose from, the advisability of making a choice is surely debatable. There are no stauncher advocates of priority rights in generic and specific names than the present writers, but they would not strain a point to save an old name of insufficient description when the type is not available or its characters have not been satisfactorily described or depicted by a later author. Preserving such names means little anyway as when forms of the same complex